

From: Bruce Bernott
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/28/02 8:33pm
Subject: help consumers, stop persecuting a productive US company

Dear Sirs:

I am writing in support of the Microsoft positions in the Justice Department lawsuits.

I have been a professional programmer for 37 years. Microsoft has done the most of any software provider to lower the costs of useful software for consumers. There is just no honest refutation of this fact.

I have personally seen \$12,000 price tags on developer's toolsets for Sun Microsystems Solaris operating systems, at the same time as Microsoft charged less than \$2,000 for a toolset that included not only a comparable developer's tool, but also a complete database system.

I urge the Justice Department to settle or drop its suits against Microsoft as soon as possible, for the benefit of us consumers. Antitrust laws written to stop abuse of fixed land-based distribution of commodities like power, telephone service, and fuel just do not make sense for software which is easily distributed.

Regards,
Bruce A. Bernott

CC: Faye Bourret